

unpatentable over Petersen in view of Hermach. Claims 9 to 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Petersen in view of Welborn.

Claims 12 to 30 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 34 to 38 have been added.

Claims 1 to 5 and 27 to 29

Claims 1 to 5 and 31 to 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Richards in view of Petersen.

Richards discloses a web-up device in which the ribbon wrapped up on rollers 420, 421 is excess waste and discarded. See col. 4, lines 18 to 35.

Petersen discloses a web-fed printing press with *a single folder* for producing a single stream of signatures.

Claim 1 recites a printing device comprising:

“a roll-to roll printing press for forming a plurality of printed rolls; and
a separate assembly device, the assembly device having a plurality of roll unwinding devices separate from the printing press and unrolling the plurality of printed rolls, a first folder accepting at least one first web from the roll unwinding devices and forming first signatures, and a second folder accepting at least one second web from the roll unwinding devices and forming second signatures.”

One of skill in the art would not have taken the ribbon on rollers 420, 421 and unwound them, as claimed. It is not even clear that the wrap up 7.1 and 7.2 on rollers 420, 421 is printed, and if it is, one of skill in the art clearly would not have unwound it, as it is discarded. The only web used in Richards is that web fed directly to the folder, as Richards is a standard printing press in which wind-up device is used solely during a start up phase.

It is therefore also respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of Petersen with the standard press of Richards.

It also again is respectfully submitted that one of skill in the art would not have found it obvious to modify Petersen to provide “a second folder accepting at least one second web from the roll unwinding devices and forming second signatures” as claimed in claim 1. Petersen accepts all webs from its rolls prior to the cutting device and combines the web before making a first and sole set of signatures. Adding a second folder forming separate second signatures to

Petersen adds complexity and it is not understood how it would speed up signature formation as asserted in the office action, as all the webs in Petersen are combined at the same speed. The Office Action asserts that it is clear that having two folders would expedite processing of the two rolls. This is not at all clear: the webs unroll at the same speed, whether one folder or two is present.

The present invention has at least two folders that form two separate streams of signatures that are then collected on a conveyor. This two-folder structure permits more flexibility with the rolls and combinations of signatures. Neither Petersen nor Richards recognizes this advantage and neither forms first and second signatures using two folders as claimed in claim 1.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 and its dependent claims 2 to 5.

With further respect to claim 4, this claim was not addressed in the Office Action as far as applicant can ascertain and it again is respectfully submitted that no conveying device for collecting separate first and second signatures is disclosed in the cited prior art.

Further Arguments with respect to Claim 33

The same arguments with respect to claim 1 relate to claim 33. In addition, claim 33 recites "a second folder accepting at least one second web from the roll unwinding devices and forming second signatures, the second folder having a second former board for lengthwise folding of the second web and a transverse second cutting device for cutting the second web into the second signatures; and a conveying device for collecting the first signatures and the second signatures from the first folder and the second folder."

The Office Action admits on page 2 that no second folder is shown by Petersen, but it would have been obvious to provide one. It then states on the same page that "the second folder exits the second signatures in a second direction parallel to the first direction and the conveying device has a conveying direction perpendicular to the first and second direction."

It is not understood how this can be asserted if there is no second folder at all in Petersen.

Also, no conveying device is identified collecting first and second signatures from the first folder and the second folder.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 33 and its dependent claims is respectfully requested as well.

Claims 6 to 11

Claims 6 to 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Petersen in view of Hermach. Claims 9 to 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Petersen in view of Hermach.

Petersen is discussed above.

Hermach shows a single folder creating one stream of signatures, and having several former boards 26.

Claim 6 recites an assembly device for assembling printed rolls of material comprising:
a plurality of roll unwinding devices;

a first folder accepting at least one first web from the roll unwinding devices and forming first signatures; and

a second folder accepting at least one second web from the roll unwinding devices and forming second signatures.

Claim 6 requires "a first folder ...forming first signatures" and "a second folder ...forming second signatures."

Thus as defined by the present application, the each of the first and second folders must cut the web into signatures, which are defined length pieces cut from a web.

Both Petersen and Hermach first combine webs over at least one former board and bring the webs together before they are cut. Thus, neither Petersen nor Hermach discloses "a second folder... forming second signatures" as claimed in claim 6. Each discloses forming only first signatures from a single folder.

Claims 9 to 11 depend from claim 6 and Wellborn as well does not show a second folder.

In addition, with respect to claim 10, *this claim appears not have been addressed by the Office Action* and neither Petersen nor Wellborn discloses a conveyor for collecting signatures from two separate folders.

As stated above, it is not clear how adding a second folder would expedite signature formation as asserted by the office action.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 6 to 11 is also respectfully requested.

New claims

New claims 34 to 38 recite additional features no shown in the prior art. Claim 38 for

example claims a separate roll storage (see specification at page 12, line 9 for example). Support for the other limitation also is found clearly in the specification.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

If any additional fee is required at this time, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully Submitted,

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